

MICHAEL F. EASLEY

GOLF DAY

2007

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the golf industry is represented in every county of North Carolina through the state's more than 550 golf facilities and 605 courses; and

WHEREAS, a 2007 economic impact study of golf by North Carolina State University found that, in 2006, golfers in North Carolina played 10.2 million rounds of golf and had direct spending of \$1.3 billion dollars which led to a total economic impact within the state of \$2.1 billion dollars which is a 15.5% increase since 2002; and

WHEREAS, golf courses provide a habitat for a broad range of wildlife, often in heavily urbanized areas; and

WHEREAS, golf courses and golfing provide a focus for healthful social and family activity; and

WHEREAS, golf delivers these benefits in a way that is among the cleanest, greenest and most sustainable industries in the state; and

WHEREAS, the Pinehurst/Southern Pines Area is universally recognized as *The Home of American Golf*, and Pinehurst Resort has hosted two U.S. Open Championships and Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club has hosted three U.S. Women's Open Championships, to include this year's tournament; and

WHEREAS, Charlotte, Greensboro, Hickory and Raleigh will host PGA Tour, PGA Champions Tour and PGA Nationwide Tour events this year; and

WHEREAS, all of these events provide significant charitable contributions, increased economic activity and will enhance North Carolina's prestige on the national and international sports stage; and

WHEREAS, the state of North Carolina was home to Donald Ross, the father of classic golf course architecture, and is home to other modern day great architects such as Tom Fazio; and

WHEREAS, golf is economically vital, environmentally responsible and socially beneficial to the people and the state of North Carolina;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MICHAEL F. EASLEY, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim May 23, 2007, as "GOLF DAY" in North Carolina in appreciation of the golf industry's contribution to our state.

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MICHAEL F. EASLEY

IN W. OF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Cap Raleigh this fifteenth day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and seven, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-first.